

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the Applicants' representatives during the personal interview conducted on November 4, 2004. The final Office Action of July 27, 2004 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

By this Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 6, 10, 15 and 20, and add new claim 21. Accordingly, claims 1-21 are currently pending in the present application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,641,974) in view of Shimada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,877,830); rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Shimada et al. and Kobayashi et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,847,792); rejected claims 6, 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Yoshino (U.S. Patent. No. 5,358,810); rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Yoshino and Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,953,088); rejected claims 10-12, 14 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Murade (U.S. Patent. No. 6,388,721); rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Murade, Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 6,400,427), and den Boer et al.; rejected claims 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (US Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Yamashita et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,659,375); rejected claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (US Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Yamashita et al., Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 6,400,427) and den Boer et al.; rejected claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Yoshino, Murade and Yamashita et al. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The rejections of claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,641,974) in view of Shimada et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,877,830) and claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Shimada et al. and Kobayashi et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,847,792) are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 1 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “each pixel comprising... a black matrix, a color filter and a common electrode on a second transparent substrate, the black matrix partially overlapping the data line...” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, and claims 2-5 and 21, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejections of claims 6, 7 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Yoshino (U.S. Patent. No. 5,358,810), claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Yoshino and Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,953,088), and claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over den Boer et al. in view of Yoshino, Murade and Yamashita et al. are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 6 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 6 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “...wherein the pixel electrode partially overlaps a second data line at a second end of the pixel electrode opposite to the first end by a width of ‘a’, and wherein ‘a’ and ‘b’ are not equal.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 6, and claims 7-9 and 19, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

The rejections of claims 10-12, 14 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Murade (U.S. Patent. No. 6,388,721), and claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Murade, Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 6,400,427), and den Boer et al. are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 10 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 10 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “wherein a cut-off film is formed under the data line, an edge portion of the cut-off film is overlapped by an edge portion of the data line, and the edge portion of the cut-off film and the edge portion of the data line are substantially coextensive with the pixel electrode.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that

claim 10, and claims 11-14, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Claim 20 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 20 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “a cut-off film under the data line, wherein an edge portion of the cut-off film is overlapped by an edge portion of the data line, and the edge portion of the cut-off film and the edge portion of the data line are substantially coextensive with the pixel electrode.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 20 is allowable over the cited references.

The rejections of claims 15-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (US Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Yamashita et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,659,375), and claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hanazawa et al. (US Patent. No. 5,953,088) in view of Yamashita et al., Hanazawa et al. (U.S. Patent. No. 6,400,427) and den Boer et al. are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 15 is allowable over the cited references in that claim 15 recites a combination of elements including, for example, “wherein an edge portion of the cut-off film is overlapped by an edge portion of the data line, and the edge portion of the cut-off film and the edge portion of the data line are substantially coextensive with the pixel electrode.” None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 15, and claims 16-18, which depend therefrom, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number (202) 496 - 7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37

C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: **November 24, 2004**

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